during the last two years. I may refer you to the proceedings of the Legislative Council on the 13th of August 1926 where this matter was discussed and settled. If you have not got a copy of the proceedings I shall ask the Secretary to send one to you.

MEMBER: Government should kindly reconsider the question. That is my humble prayer.

26. Legislation to regulate the system of inheritance among the Pulayas.

MR. DAIVATHAN KUNJAN (*Member, Nominated*) spoke about the evils arising from the absence of a legislation to regulate the system of inheritance among the Pulayas and suggested that a bill might be passed introducing the *makkatayam* law of succession among them. He next referred to the progress of education among the depressed classes and as a means of further encouraging the spread of education suggested that Government might devote their constant attention to the provision of midday meals to poor boys and also provide qualified Pulaya and Paraya candidates with appointments. Another concession which the member wanted was in regard to the development of Sanskrit education among the Pulayas with a view to enabling them to have a fairly good command of the Malayalam language. In this connection he wanted small scholarships to be granted to the Pulaya boys attending the Sanskrit school maintained by Vaidyan Mr. N. Narayana Panickar at Pulladu in the Tiruvalla taluk. Lastly, the member urged for the nomination of a representative of the Pulaya community on the Legislative Council.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Daivathan Kunjan, on the question of succession rights for Pulayas Government made enquiries of Peishkars and others and their reports have now come in and they are being examined.

As regards the point whether a knowledge of Sanskrit is necessary for speaking Malayalam correctly, let me assure you that although it is very nice to know Sanskrit it is not really necessary to speak correct Malayalam and there are plenty of people who talk correct Malayalam without knowledge of Sanskrit.

In regard to the Vaidyan at Tiruvalla where some boys are learning Sanskrit I shall have enquiries made and find out what is necessary.

Then about a member in the Legislative Council, it is too soon to say what is going to happen at the next Council. Government will first see what the elections are.

27. The desirability of extending the provisions of part II (Marriage and its dissolution) of the Travancore Ezhava Regulation, III of 1100, to the Makkatayi Ezhavas.

MR. P. K. KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) dealt with the necessity of extending the provisions of Part II (Marriage and its dissolution) of the Travancore Ezhava Regulation III of 1100 to the Makkatayi Ezhavas. At present these provisions applied only to the Marumakkatayi and the Misradayi Ezhavas. But the Makkatayi Ezhavas stood in no less need of such a legislation than the others. They constituted about a lakh or 1/7 of the total Ezhava population of the State and mostly inhabited the taluks of Meenachil, Todupuzha, Muvattupuzha, Kunnathunad and part of Parur. It was in the interests of such a large section of the Ezhava community that the member urged for the present reform. Neither marriage nor its dissolution, according to the practice now prevailing among this section of the Ezhavas, wanted any formality. Numerous decisions, among them 4 T. L. J. 15, 5 T. L. J. 398, and 6 T. L. J. 118 could be cited to show that according to the prevailing practice a mere declaration of intention was sufficient to effect a dissolution of marriage. This state of affairs had to be remedied. The general sense of the community was strongly in favour of it. And the remedy was in the hands of the Government who could, under section 2 of the Regulation, extend the operation of any portion of it to the Makkatayi Ezhavas.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kumaran, I was not aware that the Makkathayi Ezhavas felt so strongly on this subject as I now gather from your representation. However I shall have what you say placed on record and examined by officers of Government who would be able to express an opinion upon the subject. Meanwhile, I shall also be glad to know from other sources as well what the Makkathayi Ezhavas really want on the subject.

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